

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 083681
ORIGIN SS-15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083681

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUSAKA 0967 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 12 APR 77

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0967

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, RH, US

SUBJ: MURDER OF ZAMBIANS?

REF: (A) STATE 081289, (B) NEW DELHI 5138

1. WE ARE AT A LOSS AS TO THE BACKGROUND FOR FONMIN MWALE'S
STATEMENT ABOUT THE RECENT MURDER OF 700 ZAMBIANS BY THE
RHODESIAN ARMY. THERE HAVE BEEN NO RUMORS LET ALONE REPORTS OF
ZAMBIANS KILLED BY RHODESIAN FORCES. THERE HAVE BEEN RARE,
BRIEF EXCHANGES OF FIRE BETWEEN ZAMBIAN ARMY AND RHODESIAN
SECURITY FORCES ALONG THE BORDER. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE
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NO ZAMBIAN HAS BEEN KILLED IN THESE EXCHANGES. IT IS CONCEIVABLE
THAT SOME OF THOSE OPERATING AS GUERRILLAS INSIDE RHODESIA
AND KILLED IN ACTION HAVE BEEN ZAMBIAN CITIZENS, BUT WE ARE
UNAWARE OF AFH SUCH INCIDENTS.

2. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT ZAMBIA ACCUSED SOUTH AFRICA
OF ATTACKING ZAMBIA IN JULY 1976. THIS WAS AN ATTACK ON A

SWAPO CAMP BY SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS FROM THE CAPRIVI STRIP
INTO ZAMBIAN TERRITORY. THERE WERE ALLEGEDLY 24 ZAMBIANS
DEAD AND 40 WOUNDED AS WELL AS NAMIBIAN CASUALTIES. ANOTHER
INCIDENT BETWEEN ZAMBIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES TOOK PLACE
AUGUST 11, 1976 WITH ONE ZAMBIAN DEAD AND ONE WOUNDED. LOW

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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